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CCP SEEKS INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION;  
NORTH CHINA FARMERS NOT COOPERATING

SOUTHWEST ISSUES DIRECTIVE -- New York Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 30 Mar 50

The Southwest Military and Political Council has called for increased agricultural production in the area. The following points were made in the directive:

1. The area shall be cleared of bandits and special agents.
2. Authorities on all levels must aid the farmers to overcome shortages of labor, animals, seeds, implements, and fertilizers.
3. The 25-percent rent-reduction program must be carried out in accordance with regulations to be issued to increase production.
4. The mutual help policy shall be strictly enforced.
5. If the land redistribution program cannot be carried out during 1950, there shall be no change in the present land situation. Landlords and wealthy farmers may not transfer their holdings, by sale, mortgage, or gift. Slaughter of work animals, damage to buildings and equipment, and felling of tung, mulberry, bamboo, or any other valuable trees is to be strictly prohibited, as well as withdrawal of land from rent or destruction of production materials.
6. Poppy culture is strictly prohibited.
7. Irrigation projects shall be undertaken; better seed selection promoted; and measures taken against insect pests.
8. Cotton and hemp cultivation shall be promoted to ease the textile shortage and increase off-season industry.

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NORTH CHINA CONVOKES CONFERENCE -- New York Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 27 Mar 50

Peiping, 11 March (Hsin-hua) -- A 14-day conference of agricultural technical workers from North China and adjoining areas closed 9 March 1950 in Peiping. It was convoked by the Ministry of Agriculture of the central government. A 5-year plan for the general promotion of better seeds and for prevention of the growth and expansion of insect pests in the North China area was decided upon.

In summing up the results of the conference, Yang Hsien-tung, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, urged those present to carry the spirit of the conference to all the technical workers and the agricultural masses in the area and lead them in carrying out the principles laid down in the conference to bring about a great improvement in the agricultural techniques employed. The political consciousness of the agricultural technical workers and the study of the theories of Michurin should be promoted.

In closing the meeting, Li Shu-ch'eng, Minister of Agriculture, urged the members of the conference to emphasize the technical phases of the production and famine relief needs of the present situation.

The conference was attended by representatives of North China Agricultural Research Institute, the North China Experimental Station, the North China Five-Province Agricultural Office, agricultural cadres, and invited cadres, specialists, model worker, and teachers of agriculture from the Northeast, the Northwest, Shantung, and Honan.

KWANGTUNG GOVERNMENT PROMULGATES LOAN RULES -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 28 Mar 50

Canton, 27 March -- The government of Kwangtung Province has announced the following rules to govern agricultural loans for spring planting and relief. Interest will be at 5 percent per annum and loans will be due at the end of August 1950:

1. Because of the great difficulties of the people in many areas of this province, as a result of foreign and domestic war and feudalistic extortions, and the conditions of famine existing in some places, the provincial officials, in addition to ordering hsien officials to aid the sufferers, have secured the permission of the Central and South China Military and Political Council to use one sixteenth of the public grain levy to aid farmers in their spring planting. This will enable the farmers to provide themselves with the necessary implements, animals, and seeds, and to have the necessary food for strength to work. Chiefs of the various special districts are instructed to provide these loans immediately from the stocks of grain under their control so that there shall be no decrease of agricultural production in the province.
2. The special district chiefs shall, after investigation of conditions, draw up a plan to cover the needs in their territory and then instruct the various hsien authorities to provide grain from the warehouses in their jurisdictions within the limits of the plan.
3. To guard against miscarrying of the plan, so that those not really needy or who are unworthy do not benefit, and to make sure that all loans result in real production and do not become mere charity, all applications for such loans shall be passed upon by the village officials and the agricultural association and authorized by the ch'u authorities. The various authorities on all levels from the ch'u up through the special district should assume full responsibility both for issuing and collecting payments of the loans.
4. Provincial and special district officials should now be accumulating agricultural supplies, implements, and animals for distribution as needed, so that

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there will be no delay in the spring work. All authorities below the level of the hsien and the agricultural associations should be active in advising, supervising, and aiding the needy farmers to use wisely the funds they receive. If they have the authorization of the ch'u authorities, such farmers may buy what they need within the territorial limits of the province. The authorities must also take the lead in helping the farmers who receive loans to organize work exchange and mutual help groups and the collective buying of supplies. In areas of calamity, or where it appears that calamity will arise, loans should be made not only for farming but also for supplementary industries to help tide over the danger period.

5. The funds for these loans shall originate in the grain treasury and all authorities on all levels must see to it that within their jurisdiction, the issuing of these loans and the collection of them before the end of August is handled in such a way that there be no loss to the government. Five-percent interest shall be collected to cover handling charges.

6. The special district and hsien officials should be active in preparing for this loan program, according to the needs of the various areas, and should render monthly reports to the provincial authorities.

#### SHANTUNG PREPARES FOR SPRING PLANTING -- New York Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 29 Mar 50

Tsinan, 19 March (Hsin-hua) -- The farmers of Shantung are busily engaged in organizing mutual help groups, gathering fertilizer, buying agricultural equipment, and preparing seeds for the spring planting season. T'an-ch'eng and Lin-i hsiens are taking the lead in this work and building this year's program on last year's experience.

In the Chiao-tung (East Shantung) area, 330,000 pounds of commercial fertilizer have been purchased by the cooperative, as well as 5,300 pounds of rice to be loaned to those farmers. In southeast Shantung, 10,000 plows have been bought to loan to needy farmers.

#### FOOD SHIPPED TO RELIEVE NORTHERN ANHWEI -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 24 Mar 50

Ho-fei, 22 March (Hsin-hua) -- The project of transporting relief provisions into northern Anhwei is progressing vigorously, under the joint national and East China relief plans. The northern Anhwei Transport Command was set up at the end of February 1950 and established regulations both for receiving outside shipments and for distributing relief shipments within. Toward this end, the Communications Department of the Northern Anhwei Administrative Office has ordered the Navigation Control Bureaus at the Huai Ho and the Ch'ao Hu to set up offices at San-ho-shih, Fou-yang, Liu-an, Cheng-yang-kuan, and the Ch'ao Hu, for essential transport lines, and has organized armed escorts necessary to protect the shipments. To guarantee the successful completion of this project, the Northern Anhwei Administrative Office has formulated a set of rewards and penalties.

The various agencies concerned in this operation are continuing to send out cadres to participate in the activities. On 13 March 1950, the Bureau of Food-stuffs of the Administrative Office sent over 150 cadres to San-ho-chien on the Honan-Anhwei border at the upper reaches of the Huai Ho, to organize grain transport offices, and to receive and distribute provisions shipped to northern Anhwei from Honan Province. To strengthen shipping, the Administrative Office recently sent officials to San-ho-shih, in the special district of the Ch'ao Hu, to set up a line of relay stations between the Ch'ao Hu and Shu-ch'ang, to organize resources, and to establish transport lines. Shipping plans in northern Anhwei are being enforced through production and disaster relief activities. Provisions shipped from the special district of Fou-yang to the stricken area of Su Hsien have been brought in by both water and land routes.

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The transport project in all its aspects is at the preparatory and formative stage. The realization of these plans will end the grain and seed famine in the stricken areas of northern Anhwei, stabilize the grain market, and enable the people successfully to complete their spring planting.

**KWANGTUNG REGULATES SANDY LAND CULTIVATION -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 31 Mar 50**

Kwangtung Province has over 800,000 acres of sandy coastal lands. Because of the inaccessibility of these areas, their political pacification has not kept pace with that in other parts of the province; consequently, many of the necessary preparations for spring planting have lagged behind.

In view of this, the Kwangtung provincial government offers the following suggestions for improving the situation and securing a good crop in 1950:

1. Since the enemy regards interference with our agricultural production as a prime means of fighting us, the first requisite in these areas is to rid them of bandit and special agent operations by organizing the peasants for anti-bandit action.

2. Emphasis should be put on the places where plowing has not been begun. Cadre on the hsien level should be active in encouraging any landlords of contract renters who are inclined to let their lands lie fallow by explaining to them the policy of the provincial authorities to protect their investments and ensure a reasonable profit. After the land reform has been carried out, the landlords will still be able to cultivate it; therefore, they should keep it up in the best possible condition for maximum production. Should they fail in this they will be liable to the penalties meted out to those who interfere with production. On the other hand, the officials should give every assistance to encourage production.

3. In cases where the authorities have taken possession, or are in trusteeship for absentees, and there is no one cultivating the land, they should take immediate measures to remedy this by seeking renters, providing capital, and organizing cadres and the farmers to cultivate it. Collective contracts may be made to govern the operations. Ways of raising money are to reduce rents and return the excess rent to the renter or to encourage landlords and others to loan their money to be returned in kind with no limits placed on interest by the authorities.

4. New contracts should be drawn in accordance with local conditions. Where formerly, guarantee deposits have been required, shop guarantees may be accepted. In the matter of rental rates, all excessive rates should be eliminated. The contract should clearly define the responsibilities and privileges of owner and renter. In case the farming is to be done by hired labor, a wage contract should be drawn up. In many of these matters we are without experience, hence sufficient discussion should be carried on to provide a sure guide and to set patterns for future experience.

The planting season is approaching and the authorities must see to it that measures are taken immediately to get the work under way. Where there are shortages of tools, fertilizer, animals, and seed, the authorities must take steps to provide them according to the general instructions already issued by the provincial authorities. Proper use should be made of the funds allotted as agricultural loans for quick results, but the chief reliance should be put upon arousing the cooperative spirit of the farmers of all classes to help themselves in fulfilling this year's production requirements.

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NORTH CHINA SEEKS TO RECTIFY ERRORS -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 29 Mar 50

Peiping, 28 March (Hsin-hua) -- Government leaders throughout North China are paying close attention to and endeavoring to clear up apparent misapprehensions and fears on the part of the populace that threaten to interfere with the stepped up production plan of the government.

Among the agricultural population and even among the cadres themselves, there seem to be some who are expressing discouraging ideas intended to make the people feel that there is no use in extra production, that people should produce only enough for their own use and be content with that.

Authorities list the following reasons for this phenomenon:

1. Many of the farmers and cadres are still unfamiliar with CCF policies. Some cadres are still not entirely convinced about the liquidation or leveling off process involved in the land-reform program.

2. Certain inequalities have been practiced in the process of redistribution of the land that have militated against the interests of the middle-class farmers and these have not been admitted and corrected.

In some areas where the land redistribution has been carried out, new deeds have not been issued. New owners are thus afraid to invest money and labor in the land until they are sure that the land is really theirs.

3. In the collection of the public grain after the harvest of last autumn, too heavy demands were placed on some of the middle-class farmers and in the collections from some of the newly opened wastelands, inequalities were permitted.

4. In some places, in the carrying out of the exchange of work and mutual help programs, the principle of voluntary action was violated and some of the middle-class farmers found their equipment and grain being forcibly "borrowed."

The authorities in the various provinces are endeavoring to combat this attitude of the farmers by conducting farmer's delegates conferences in many places, at which attempts are being made to acquaint the delegates with the real basis of the land-reform program and to answer satisfactorily the questions raised by the people's representatives. Another method has been further intensive indoctrination of the party cadres in the basic principles of social evolution and history of social progress. It is hoped that the delegates and the cadres will be able to help the masses to a better understanding of the whole program and an appreciation of its value to them.

The inequalities complained of are being rectified and the delayed deeds being issued as rapidly as possible to put the people's mind at rest.

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